



U.S. Department of Justice
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Western District of New York

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PRESS RELEASE

October 28, 2003

RE: UNITED STATES v. RICHARD EMKE

United States Attorney Michael A. Battle announced today that RICHARD EMKE, 34, of 6676 Depot Street, Salamanca, New York, pled guilty this morning before Chief United States District Judge Richard J. Arcara.

Emke, formerly the warehouse manager for Salamanca cigarette wholesaler A.D. Bedell Company, Inc., pled guilty to conspiracy to commit money laundering, in violation of Section 1956(h) of Title 18 of the United States Code.

In pleading guilty, Emke admitted that, as A.D. Bedell's warehouse manager, he supervised the pulling of cigarette stocks and the segregation of those stocks into orders that were then marked with codes and nicknames that coincided with non-Native American cigarette smugglers so that these segregated orders could be shipped to Roseine's Smoke Shop on the Cattaraugus Indian Reservation and directly picked up by the smugglers for sale off the Cattaraugus Reservation, primarily in Michigan.

Due to his limited role in the money laundering conspiracy and his agreement to cooperate, Emke will likely receive a probationary sentence under federal sentencing guidelines.

The case against Emke was investigated by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives under the direction of Resident Agent in charge David DeJoe and the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance Office of Tax Enforcement under the direction of Deputy Commissioner of Taxation and Finance Peter Farrell. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys William J. Hochul, Jr., and Anthony M. Bruce and Special Assistant United States Attorney Uri M. Myerson.

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